

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication terminal comprising:
  - a voice input unit which inputs voice;
  - a voice converting unit which converts the voice inputted by the voice input unit into a voice signal;
  - a character converting unit which converts the voice signal converted by said voice converting unit into a character signal;
  - a transmitting unit which transmits said voice signal and said character signal via a communication line; and
  - a control unit which controls said transmitting unit in such a manner that said transmitting unit transmits said voice signal or said character signal in response to a condition of said communication line.
2. A communication terminal according to claim 1 wherein:
  - said control unit controls said transmitting unit in such a manner that said transmitting unit transmits said character signal when an error rate of said communication line is higher than a predetermined value.
3. A communication terminal according to claim 1 wherein:
  - said communication terminal is comprised of a storage unit for storing thereinto both said voice signal and said character signal.

4. A communication terminal according to claim 3  
wherein:

    said storage unit stores thereinto time  
information in combination with said voice signal and  
said character signal.

5. A communication terminal according to claim 4  
wherein:

    said communication terminal is comprised of a  
character input unit which inputs a character, and  
reads a voice signal from said storage unit in response  
to time information of a character signal corresponding  
to the character inputted by said character input unit.

6. A communication terminal comprising:

    a voice input unit for inputting voice;  
    a voice converting unit for converting the  
voice inputted by the voice input unit into a voice  
signal;

    a picture input unit for inputting a picture  
signal;

    a character converting unit for converting  
said voice signal into a character signal;

    a transmitting unit capable of transmitting  
said voice signal, said character signal, and said  
picture signal via a communication line; and

    a control unit for controlling said transmitting  
unit in such a manner that said transmitting unit  
transmits said voice signal, said character signal, or  
said picture signal in response to a condition of said

communication line.

7. A communication system for transmitting/receiving a signal between a first communication terminal and a second communication terminal via a communication line, wherein:

    said first communication terminal is comprised of: a voice input unit for inputting voice; a voice converting unit for converting the voice inputted by the voice input unit into a voice signal; a character converting unit for converting the voice signal converted by said voice converting unit into a character signal; a transmitting unit capable of transmitting both said voice signal and said character signal via a communication line; and a control unit for controlling said transmitting unit in such a manner that said transmitting unit transmits said voice signal, or said character signal in response to a condition of said communication line; and wherein:

    said second communication terminal is comprised of: a receiving unit capable of receiving both a voice signal and a character signal; an output unit for outputting the voice signal received by said receiving unit; and a display unit for displaying thereon the character signal received by said receiving unit.